

Please amend the claims as follows:

Claims 1-10 (Canceled).

Claim 11 (New): An acaricidal aqueous solution comprising at least 10 g/l of sodium bicarbonate, wherein the acaricidal aqueous solution is free of any other acaricidal substance.

Claim 12 (New): The solution according to Claim 11, comprising from 10 to 100 g/l of sodium bicarbonate.

Claim 13 (New): The solution according to Claim 12, comprising from 40 to 60 g/l of sodium bicarbonate.

Claim 14 (New): The solution according to Claim 11, wherein the acaricidal aqueous solution is free of neurotoxic substances.

Claim 15 (New): A method for treating elements of the human environment comprising applying the acaricidal aqueous solution according to Claim 11 to elements of the human environment.

Claim 16 (New): The method according to Claim 15, wherein the elements of the human environment consist of rugs and carpets.

Claim 17 (New): The method according to Claim 15, wherein the elements of the human environment consist of textiles for bedding or clothing.

Claim 18 (New): The method according to Claim 15, wherein the aqueous solution is applied by sprinkling.

Claim 19 (New): The method according to Claim 15, wherein an amount of solution of 40 to 60 ml/m<sup>2</sup> is applied.

Claim 20 (New): The method according to Claim 15, wherein the treatment is carried out by immersion in the aqueous solution.